

**POLITICAL SCIENCE/ISCOR 421**  
**ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION**  
**SPRING 2013**

Time: Tuesday from 4 to 6:40  
Location: AH-3177  
Professor: Johanna Solomon  
Office Hours: before class 3-4pm or by appointment

Contact information:  
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**Prerequisites:**

Upper division standing.

**Course Summary:**

This course teaches basic alternative dispute resolution skills and concepts and applies these skills and concepts to multiple levels of conflict including inter-personal, inter-group, and international conflicts.

This course will be highly interactive, focusing on experiential learning and education. The course will be taught in two sections, the first on these skills and the second on resolving conflicts on the international level. The first section will include the theory of collaborative, problem solving negotiation and mediation, the practice of negotiation and mediation skills and techniques, and will focus on the psychology of conflict and personal ADR styles. Case studies will include work on American race-relations, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and Northern Ireland.

Relevant movies will further illustrate these ideas and speakers will demonstrate real-world applications of national and international ADR work.

**Learning Outcomes:**

Students will develop a nuanced and critical understanding of theories relating to alternative dispute resolution including inter-personal and international mediation, negotiation, and international relations. They will develop a strong ability to work collaboratively and will be able to translate these theories into conflict resolution and communication skills. Students will be able to apply their knowledge in written essays.

**Required Texts and Readings:** *You are highly encouraged to share books. A copy of Ashmore will be available in the library on limited loan if possible.*

Fisher and Ury: Getting to Yes

Beer and Stief: Mediator's Handbook (revised 3rd edition or 4th)

Ashmore, Jussim, and Wilder: Social Identity, Intergroup Conflict, and Conflict Reduction

**All other readings from either books in library or articles found online.**

**Assignments and Grading:**

1) Midterm: *Negotiation Analysis* (25%)

Write a 7 to 9 page paper on a non-class negotiation. Check your paper topic with the professor before proceeding. Reserach the negotiation using sources from your life, the news, and history. Your paper should include a short summary of this negotiation and then argue how and why this negotiation could have been more or less successful given concpets from readings and the class.

2) Final: *Interview Paper* (25%)

Conduct a 30 to 45 minute interview with someone that has been through a conflict or that works in the ADR field. Please check this person with a professor before the interview. Write a 7 to 9 page paper based on this interview. This paper should briefly discuss who the person is (no more than 2 pages) and a key conflict they have been involved with (no more than 2 pages). Then, it should apply the class concepts to their experience. The end of your paper should include your own thoughts on what you have learned from your interview subject.

3) *Quizes* (10%) (2 given at random, without notice) on concepts and readings.

4) *Short Analysis Papers* (3): (15%)

In 1.5 to 2 pages, summarize and then analyze your performance in an in-class excercise. Apply class concepts to what occured.

5) *Attendance/ Participation* (25%)

Attend class and remain until the end of class. Arrival over 20 minute late or leaving more than 20 minutes early will count for partial credit only. Particiate actively in class, demonstrating a knowledge of class readings, answering questions, and/or contributing to group activities.

6) *Extra Credit*:

Up to 1/3 of a letter grade (So A- to A for example) for attendence at, and 1 page summaries of, 2 events related to conflict or conflict resolution. You must complete both for credit and hand both in stapled together. Please check with Professors for information on events. Feel free to let us know if there is an event you are aware of that you believe is relevent to the course.

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Percent of Grade</b>
Midterm	25%
Final	25%
Attendance & Participation	25%
Short Analysis Papers	15%
Quizzes	10%
<b>Total</b>	100%
Extra Credit	up to 1/3 of a letter grade

**Course Policies:**

**Attendance:**

This is an interactive class so only excused absences are permitted. Not coming to class, coming to class unprepared or more than 20 minutes late, or leaving early will result in lost attendance points.

**Papers:**

Assignments are due at the start of class, printed and stapled if multiple pages. An electronic dropbox may also be available. If so, the professor will clearly indicate this during class and by E-mail and all papers will be due into the dropbox before the start of class. Papers will be double spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font with 1" margins. Please spell and grammar check your essays; writing counts in life and in this course. Make sure you properly cite your sources. A good paper will have at least four separate sources, at minimum. *Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and carries serious penalties (See University Policy).*

Concerning citation and references:

- Please use in-text citation, following these formats
  - For personal interactions or lectures: (Nibbe presentation, October 11, 2012) or (Solomon interview, Oct 11, 2012)
  - For all articles and books: (Nibbe 2011)
  - For quotations: (Nibbe 2011, p. 3)
- You do not have to include a bibliography if you only cite course readings and lectures. If you cite other sources, please include a bibliography with the full reference to the additional books or articles that you cited. Please use APA format for citations. Be consistent and use page numbers.

Late papers must be E-mailed to both Professors. Papers will lose 10 percentage points for each day late (so 90 to 80%). Papers received by Professors after the start of class on the day they are due will lose 5 percentage points.

**Computers:**

Computers may be used for taking notes during lectures. However, use of Facebook or Gmail during class is not permitted. You will need to bring a pen/ pencil and paper to each class, as computers will not be permitted during class exercises. Texting and other use of your phone during class is not permitted. If you must make an emergency contact with someone, please leave class. Otherwise, your focus will be appreciated.

**Dress:**

This class will simulate professional ADR work. While there is no dress code, please be conscious of how your clothing choices can influence your work.

**Disabilities:**

Students with disabilities who need special accommodations in class or on tests must make arrangements through Student Disability Services, located at Calpulli Center, Suite 3101, phone number 594-6473, webpage <http://www.sa.sdsu.edu/sds/>.

**Grading:**

Any grade disputes must be taken up in office hours. Any re-grade requests will include re-grading of the entire work in question. Please let Professors know promptly if there are any technical mistakes.

**Class Schedule:**

Note: Class schedule and readings subject to change. Changes will be discussed in class and reminders sent by E-mail.

<b>Class Date</b>	<b>Class Topic</b>	<b>Due at the Start of Class: readings and assignments</b>
Jan 22nd	Intro to ADR	Getting to Yes, Intro
Jan 29th	Social Identity and Conflict	Social identity, intergroup conflict, and conflict reduction: Ch 1 (Intro), 2
Feb 5th	Interviewing/ Self and Client	Mediator's Handbook: pp. 68-70, 94-95, 105-106 (4th Edition: 43-49, 124-131, 149, 155)
Feb 12th	Intro to Negotiations	Getting to Yes: Ch. 1, 2, 3
Feb 19th	Negotiations	Getting to Yes: Ch. 4, 5, 6
Feb 26th	Intro to Mediation <i>ADR Services, Inc. Speakers</i>	Mediator's Handbook: pp. 3-23, 76-84, 93 <b>2 Page Analysis Due</b>
March 5th	Mediation <i>National Conflict Resolution Center Speaker</i>	Mediator's Handbook pp. 23-64, 110-113, 125
March 12th	Conciliation & Race Relations <i>DOJ CRS Speakers &amp; Dialogue</i>	Social identity, intergroup conflict, and conflict reduction: Ch. 7, 8 <b>2 Page Analysis Due</b>
March 19th	Intro to Conflict (Resolution) Theory and IR	<b>Midterm Paper Due</b>

<b>Class Date</b>	<b>Class Topic</b>	<b>Due at the Start of Class: readings and assignments</b>
March 26th	Applying IR Theory: Kosovo	<i>Making Sense of International Relations Theory</i> , Intro and 1 Chapter (to be assigned)
April 9th	Conflict Case Study: Northern Ireland Conflict	<i>Breaking down the Walls: Northern Ireland Lessons</i>
April 16th	Conflict Case Study: Israeli-Palestinian Conflict	<i>Bridging the Divide: Peacebuilding in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict</i> , Intro and 1 Chapter (to be assigned)
April 23rd	Inter-ethnic Solidarity and Diaspora Involvement in Conflict Resolution  <i>Olive Tree Initiative Speakers</i>	<i>My Brother's Keeper? Inter-ethnic Solidarity and Human Rights</i>
April 30th	International Negotiation Exercise	Read preparation materials, at least 2 articles on your assigned topic, and communicate your findings to your group
May 7th	Debrief International Mediation Styles	<b>2 Page Analysis Due, All Extra Credit Write-Ups Due</b>
May 14th	Final Exam Week	<b>Final Paper Due</b>
May 21st		Grades Due